Eddowes believed JFK theory

Fort Worth Bureau of The News

FORT WORTH — An attorney for Michael Eddowes said Monday the 78-year-old British author "held out hope to the very end" that an autopsy would support his theory a Soviet agent was buried in the grave of Lee Harvey Oswald.

"He (Eddowes) found it very difficult to believe the grave actually held Oswald's body, but he does accept the findings of the pathologists who examined the body after it was removed from the grave Sunday," Cue Lipscomb said.

Lipscomb said he sat with Eddowes near the room where the pathologists performed the examination and identification.

"We started hearing leaks," Lipscomb said.

"We heard the pathologists had found a scar in the area where Oswald had undergone mastoid surgery while a child. Then we heard the teeth matched those in Oswald's dental charts.

"Eddowes still wasn't convinced his theory was wrong. We discussed the possibility that someone had switched skulls ... that Oswald's skull was placed in the coffin with the body of another person. Then we were informed the skull still was connected to the spine."

Lipscomb said Eddowes, at that point, conceded his theory was wrong.

'to end'

Oswald, a former Marine who defected to Russia in 1959, was accused of firing the shots that killed President John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963. Two days after the assassination, Oswald was shot to death by Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby.

Eddowes, owner of a British restaurant chain, wrote a book outlining his theory that after Oswald defected to the Soviet Union, a Soviet agent returned to the U.S. posing as

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Michael Eddowes ... remains convinced the Kremlin orchestrated the death of President Kennedy.

Eddowes believed theory 'to end'

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Oswald before assassinating Kennedy.

Lipscomb said that Eddowes plans to return to England this week.

"He told me he intends to do further research regarding the assassination," Lipscomb said. "He remains convinced the Kremlin orchestrated the death of President Kennedy."

Lipscomb said Eddowes does not plan to write another book.

Robert Oswald, brother of the assassination suspect, had said Eddowes wanted the grave opened so he could gain publicity that would help sell his book. But Robert Oswald withdrew his opposition to the exhumation after negotiations last week.

Eddowes paid all costs of opening the grave, transporting the body to Dallas and the autopsy, Lipscomb said.

"We did not participate in the negotiations between Robert and Marina Oswald Porter which led to opening of the grave," Lipscomb said.

"Eddowes' involvement was limited to his agreement to pay all costs. But, as far as I know, he did not pay any additional funds to either her or the brother," he said.

Eddowes does not have any right to a videotape of the autopsy, Lipscomb said.

"Those rights belong to Marina," Lipscomb said.

"I do not know what, if anything, she will do with them. They may have some financial value."

Lipscomb also said Eddowes believes his expenditures to open the grave were "worth the cost" despite the results.

"He told me he was treated very fairly while in this area," Lipscomb said.

"Although the autopsy didn't show what he and I thought it would show, he feels it will end speculation which would have continued indefinitely if the grave had not been opened," he said.